

The Pathway to the Baccalaureate Program



**A High School to
Community College to
University Program Initiative**

Pathway Program Genesis

- Too many low-income, minority and immigrant students were not pursuing college after high school.
- Too many high school graduates were not college ready.



Pathway Program

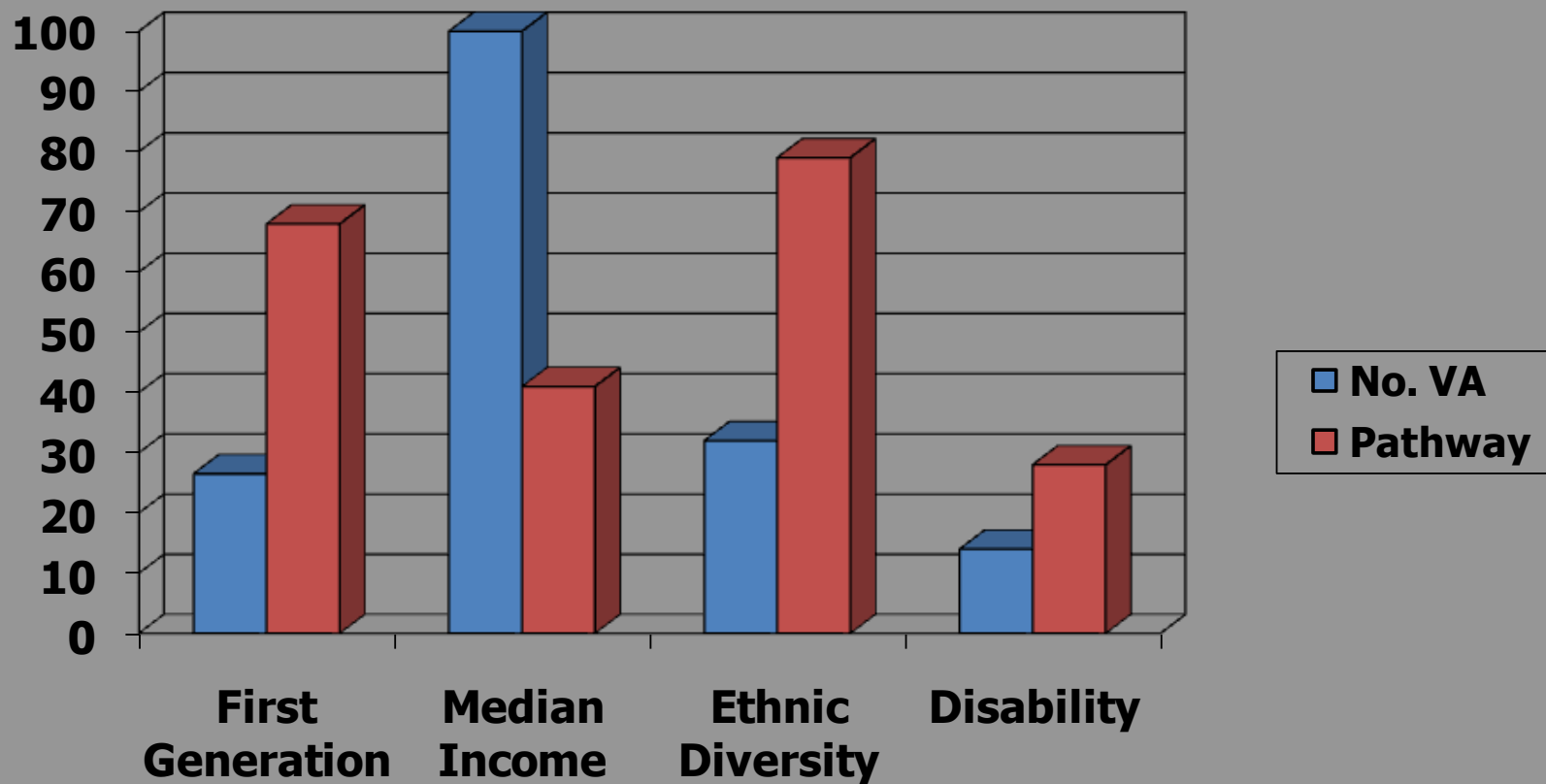
- Targets first-generation college goers
- Provides intensive assessment, advising, and planning assistance for college
- Engages one-third of students in college-level study prior to high school graduation
- Offers seamless transition assistance from school – to community college – to university
- Focuses upon building successful academic behaviors

Pathway Student Data

- 79% non-white
- 67% first-generation college goers
- 63% low-income



Regional vs. Program Demographics



The Pathway to the Baccalaureate Model



Key Program Interventions

- On-site at high schools during regular school hours
- One-stop, student case management
- Financial aid
- Learning cohorts starting in high school
- Commitment to college success

Transition Program

- Monthly workshops on transition planning, placement test preparation and financial aid planning
- Early assessment testing, academic advising and early college course registration occur on-site in high schools
- Counselors act as liaisons with college departments

Transfer Planning

- Early access to selected activities at Mason
- Mason advisor meets with participants at NOVA
- Personalized assistance with each step of transfer process
- Guest matriculation at Mason while completing a NOVA degree
- Guaranteed admission to Mason with 2.50 GPA and an Associate in Arts or Sciences Degree.

2010-11 Pathway Program

- 4,950 students in six cohorts
- 37 high schools
- 93% “at risk” students
- 84% high school graduation & college-going rate
- 81% first year college retention rate



Current Pathway Program Partnership



Expanding Pathway to the Baccalaureate through SySTEMic Solutions

SySTEMic Solutions

Creating a replicable program that will improve results for all students, including at-risk students, in rigorous academic classes to better prepare them for college and the workforce.

Background of SySTEMic Solutions

- NOVA commits to work with regional school districts to improve college readiness of graduates.
- NOVA's Pathway to the Baccalaureate Program is introduced to three regional school districts.
- Dr. Templin proposes a NOVA partnership with three school districts, industry and GMU to implement and sustain a STEM pathway initiative.

Outcomes of the STEM Pathway Initiative

- In 2011-2012:
480 high school and 220 middle school students will be actively engaged through the SySTEMic Solutions initiative annually;
- In 2013-2014:
over 1,450 students will be in the STEM pipeline;
350 in the middle schools;
480 in the high schools;
660 at NOVA and 18 will have graduated from NOVA.
- In 2015-2016:
nearly 1,750 students will be in the pipeline;
500 in the middle schools;
480 in the high schools;
1,607 at NOVA, 485 graduates from NOVA;
545 students will be enrolled at GMU and
200 GMU students will graduate annually.

Activities of SySTEMic Solutions

- Professional development opportunities for teachers of STEM curriculums;
- Expanded regional employment opportunities in the STEM fields;
- Part-time employment and internship opportunities for students in STEM programs;
- STEM-focused activities/camps that stimulate student interest and awareness in advanced technologies;

Staffing for the STEM Initiative

- Director of SySTEMic Solutions (NOVA)
- Regional STEM CTE Education Coordinator (School divisions)
- Pathway to the Baccalaureate Counselors (NOVA)

**Positions have been made possible through the support of
our partners.**



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Sustainability of the Initiative

- NOVA and the three public school divisions.
- Federal, state and privately funded grant opportunities.
- Financial and in-kind support from local industry.